

09/248,595

P-5761-1

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 12 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 11 and 17 as follows:

"can't use Tabled" no bladder

1. (FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A game ball having increased resistance to moisture absorption comprising a natural leather cover disposed over a lining, the leather of said cover having increased water resistance properties distributed throughout during a tanning process, wherein when said ball is subjected to three 90 minute cycles of a rain test, said ball contains a maximum amount of water at the conclusion of said third rain test cycle as expressed as a ratio of the weight of the ball with absorbed water to the weight of the dry ball, such ratio being a maximum of 1.20:1.

*Table 1 (3)
1.13:1
E1
Cover w/ lining
No bladder*

3. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) A game ball having increased resistance to moisture absorption comprising a natural leather cover disposed over a lining, the leather of said cover having increased water resistance properties distributed throughout during a tanning process, wherein when said ball is subjected to six 45 minute cycles of a rain test and said ball is permitted to dry at approximately 70°F for 24 hours between cycles, said ball contains an amount of water at the conclusion of each said rain test cycle as expressed as a ratio of the weight of the ball with absorbed water to the weight of the dry ball, an average per cycle ratio at the conclusion of said six rain test cycles being a maximum of 1.20:1.

*SUB C 1
E2
1.10:1
Cover + lining
No bladder*

11. (TWICE AMENDED) A game ball having improved resistance to moisture absorption comprising a cover of natural leather having a treatment to impart improved water resistance properties throughout the entirety of the leather, said treatment comprising tanning of said leather with chemicals prior to application of said cover to said game ball, wherein when said ball is subjected to three 90 minute cycles of a rain test, said ball absorbs a maximum amount of water at the conclusion of said third rain test cycle as expressed as a ratio of the weight of the ball with absorbed water to the weight of the dry ball, such ratio being a maximum of 1.20:1.

*Just Cover
E3
No lining
No bladder
Table
Table 2 (3)
1.23:1 3rd
1.20:1 5th*

*NO bladder or
lining
just cover*